
St. John is a Stewardship Parish

March 29, 2015

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 28, 2015

4:00 – Parishioners of St. John

Sunday, March 29, 2015

8:00 - Parishioners of St. John

10:30 – Parishioners of St. John

6:00 – Parishioners of St. John

Important Dates

Mondays - Bible Study – 7:00pm

Tue. 3/31- Sat. 4/4 – Holy Week – No CCD

Tue. 4/7 – Sat. 4/11 – Last CCD Class

Sat. 4/11 – 1st Reconciliation & 2nd gr Retreat – 10:00

Sat. 4/11 – Irish Dinner – 5:00pm

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Pam Adornato, Bill Monaghan, Ann Storti, Karen Debenedictis, Harry Hewins, Floyd Weaver, Barbara O’Hear, Christopher MacDonald, Kim Santagata, Ann Sullivan, Jean Lavin, Elaine McKeon, Teresa Barris, Joseph Recco, The Shearing Family, Bill Osborne, Alex Hankey, Bob Cass, Edie & Howard Lincoln, Jean Tilden, Dorothy Romano, Chris Golden, Joe Zbinski, Paul Martin, Anna Foy, Sophie Costantino, Tom Farley, Robert Panza, Steven Lacey, Joe Bosse & The residents of Sachem & Westview.

If you know of anyone who should be included or taken off the prayer list, please let the Rectory know.

Holy Week and Easter Mass Schedule

Holy Thursday, April 2nd – Mass at 7:00pm
Friday, April 3rd -“Seven Last Words” at 3:00pm
Good Friday, April 3rd – Service at 7:00pm
Saturday Vigil, April 4th – Mass at 8:00pm
Easter Sunday, April 5th – Mass at 8:00, 9:30 & 11:30am

Our Shared Treasure

March 22, 2015

Collection: \$ 5,297

Budgeted: \$ 5,784

Thank you for your continued generosity

Next week’s Easter collection is for our priests. The Clergy Health and Retirement Trust helps care for the health and well-being of our 638 priests, ensuring the highest quality of care and quality of life for the men who have dedicated their lives in service to our Archdiocese of Boston. Our priests have been there for us. Now it is our turn to help secure the future for them in their time of need. Thank you for helping to keep the promises made to care for our priests.

The 2015 Catholic Appeal

Thank you to all who have participated in the 2015 Catholic Appeal campaign. Through the generosity of Catholics like you, the Catholic Appeal strengthens the ministries that serve our Archdiocese and helps us to live our faith together. If you wish to make a pledge to the Catholic Appeal, please take a pledge form and fill it out. You can also make a gift or pledge online at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org . Thank you for your support and for helping us to reach our parish goal.

Easter Flower Envelopes are in the pews, please return them by Sunday, March 29th.



Due to the snow in our backyard, we will have the Easter Bunny visit the children after the 9:30 Mass in the church hall to have pictures taken and to give everyone a chocolate treat.



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 11th at 5:00pm

Irish Boiled Dinner

**Tickets are \$20 p/p or \$35 per couple
and will be sold after all the Masses**



From the Office of Spiritual Life

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN YOUR FAITH

Archdiocese of Boston – Men's Cursillo



Cursillo is a short course in Christianity. It is an encounter with Christ in a small community of the Church, in order to deepen your own faith and strengthen your ability to be witnesses of Christ in the world.

The dates for the Men's Cursillo weekend is April 23-26, 2015.

The weekend runs from Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon and is held at the Campion Center in Weston MA.

For information and registration, please check the Boston Cursillo Website: www.bostoncursillo.org or call the Office of Spiritual Life at 617-779-3640 or email us at spiritual_development@rcab.org.

A message from our Pastor

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Palm Sunday has the unique distinction in the fact that **two gospel passages** are read. The first is the account of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem; the second one chronicles His Passion and death. The amazing thing is that while they are radically different in tone they are linked, one to the other, by the fact that Jesus is in the center of both "events". He is certainly present, and at the center, of the gospel in total, but these two readings highlight the "apex" (high point) and "nadir" (low point) of His mission and ministry.

In the first gospel passage, read at the beginning of Mass, Jesus is greeted with cries of "Hosanna", a word which is both a call for salvation and a declaration of praise. It is meant as a loving

greeting, given by a people who recognize Jesus as Lord and Savior. It is ironic, therefore, that many of those same people will be crying out to "crucify" Jesus (but more on that later). This is a momentous occasion, sweeping up all in its majesty and power. It is the ultimate "good time" event. In just a few short days, however, the whole mood and tone of the city will shift, giving way to the Passion and Death of Jesus.

This is where our second gospel reading comes into play. Traditionally read in "parts" (with the celebrant, lectors and congregation all taking part), this passage depicts the Passover meal, this particular one being what we would come to see and know as the "Last Supper", with Jesus "breaking bread" with His disciples. It is in this "breaking of the bread" where the institution of the Holy Eucharist would begin and start to take shape. It is on this night, also, when Jesus would prepare His disciples for His coming Passion and Death. Jesus uses this occasion to "plant the seed of faith" for the disciples' future missions, carrying on His word and spreading God's Word. The arrest, "trial" and punishment of death on the Cross would follow. This is where the irony of the week's events comes into play. It is basically the same crowd (in town for the Passover celebration) who cries out "Hosanna" on Palm Sunday who will cry out (equally full-throated) to crucify Jesus on Good Friday.

Palm Sunday is the beginning of the holiest week of the year. May it be a time of reflection, enlightenment and blessing for us all. May we not forget that the horror and sorrow of Good Friday is overcome by the majesty and life-giving love of Easter Sunday. May we enter into this week knowing that as we walk this journey of faith with our Lord, He has already "set the path before us" and awaits our own entrance into the Kingdom.

A Blessed Palm Sunday and Holy Week to you All,
Fr. Paul

